Standing On The Shoulders of Giants *[Compiled by DM for Radical History Network. Version 2 – feedback/additions welcome]*

HARINGEY'S REBEL MOVEMENTS: A TIMELINE OF SOME KEY MILESTONES 1381 - 2026

Year	What	Where	Details or summary available?	Echoes / Heirs	Comments / Connection today?
1350s	Revolts over wage cuts and serfdom	Tottenham	Being researched by Ben T	Wage-related strikes	Justices assaulted and prisoners freed
1381	Peasants Revolt / Poll Tax protests	Crouch End & Tottenham	Being researched by Ben T	Anti-poll tax 1988-92	Uprisings and protests especially in SE England. Tax collectors and under-sheriff's property burned down (incuding in Crouch End).
1659	Land struggle / tearing down fences - Commoners, levellers and diggers	Enfield Chase	Online	Defence of common and public land and greenspace	
1673	Bathsua Makin wrote 'Education of Women'. Had set up school for girls.	Tottenham	Online	Waves of feminist movements and campaigns	School for girls at High Cross
1792	Set up a school for girls, and a Savings Bank	Tottenham	Online and Museum	Waves of feminist movements and campaigns	Priscilla Wakefield / Quakers. Same year Mary Wollstonecroft wrote 'Vindication of the Rights of Women' - In 1785 she'd set up a girls school in Stoke Newington
1802	Luke Howard proposed names for clouds, now used worldwide	Tottenham	Online. Lordship Hub leaflet	Relevant to climate change.	Celebrated in Lordship Rec with interpretation board and weather station in the Hub.
1912	Suffragette and revolutionary socialist Sylvia Pankhurst speaks at open air meeting in Finsbury Park	Finsbury Park	Online	Second and third waves of feminist movements and campaigns	
1914-18	Conscientious objection and opposition to war	Haringey	Peace Forum leaflet	Anti-war campaigns	North London Herald League held protest meetings in Green Lanes [See Memorial by The Salisbury Pub]. There was also other political and religious opposition, incl open air meetings in Finsbury Pk. There were at least 350 local Consc. Objectors.
1919 onwards	White Hart Lane Estate / Tower Gardens tenants self-organisation	N. Tottenham	Online and RaHN doc	TGRG, HFRA 2001-now	White Hart Lane Estate Welfare Association set up, leading to social clubs and events, savings club (800 households), Residents Association..
1926	General Strike for 9 days	Haringey and UK	RaHN pamphlet	TU branches. Haringey Trades Union Council.	

1920-30s	Tottenham National Unemployed Workers Movement	Tottenham	Online / LBH	Claimants Union in 1980s, HCJC now.	1930s office/base in room above alley by High Cross. Mrs Margaret 'Mitch' Mitchell a key activist. Also large Tottenham delegation to Cable Street anti-fascist battle 1936
1936	Jarrow Marchers stay at Trades Hall	Tottenham	Was plaque on wall	HTUC	Trades Hall was 7 Bruce Grove. Where is plaque - in Museum? Sheila Peacock may know..
1940s	Post-war clashes to prevent fascist meetings	Tottenham	LBH website	SUTR	Fascists attempted to hold 'speakers corner' on the corner of Seven Sisters. The Jewish '43' group often attacked and suppressed the fascist efforts.
1948	Muswell Hill and Fortis Green Association set up	Muswell Hill and Fortis Green	MHFGA history doc + online	MHFGA, Tenants Fedn 1967, HFRA 2001-now	Longest-running Residents Association in Haringey, and still active.
1959	Morris House Health Centre	N. Tottenham	Online	Misc public health facilities campaigns	One of the first purpose-built 'holistic' public health centres in the UK
1966	New Beacon Books opens	Haringey	Online and RaHN leaflet re John La Rose	Black community self-organisation	First black publisher in UK.
1967	Ally Pally 14hr Technicolour Dream 'happening'	Haringey	Online	Self-organised youth cultural movements and free spaces	7000 attended, including John and Yoko. Benefit for the radical 'International Times'. Set the scene for future youth music events and spaces eg rock, punk, rap, rave, hiphop, goth, grime etc….
1968	Hornsey School of Art occupied	Hornsey	Online	Student movements	Occupied for 6 weeks. Got national publicity. See also later school students walk outs re the cane (1971), YTS (1985), Iraq war (2003)
1970	Oz anti-censorship trial	Haringey links	Online	Self-organised youth cultural movements and publishing	A number of the Oz collective were local schoolkids
1971	Kinks' 'Muswell Hillbillies' LP	Muswell Hill	Online	Youth making their own music	The Kinks were a local and famous pop group with some radical social lyrics. This LP was one of many of theirs from the mid-1960s onwards
1972	Disability rights movement starts	Crouch End		Disabled Peoples Action	Resident of Chettle Ct N8 launches UPIAS, a founding body of the modern disability rights/empowerment movement.
1975	Black Parents Movement	Haringey	Online, and RaHN leaflet	Continued resistance to institutional racism	Movement fighting racist discrimination against their kids in the education system and beyond
Late 1970s-80s	Battle to save Archway Road area / Homes Before Roads	Archway	Online	Anti-roads protests. Also safer neighbourhoods.	1000 people attended first day of one of the 3 controversial Public Inquiries (all abandoned). Successful. Parkland Walk also saved.
1977	Battle of Wood Green anti-fascist mobilisation	Wood Green	HTUC Booklet	Anti-fascist mobilisations. SUTR.	3000+ attended. Tried to attack and prevent National Front march.
1982-1991	Tottenham Claimants Union	Haringey	RaHN leaflet	Benefits	Part of CU movement, and the setting up of unwaged

				campaigning. HCJC.	and unemployed centres incl 628 Tottenham High Rd, and 72 West Green Rd. Claimants occupied Civic Centre mid-1980s during social security workers strike.
1984-5	Miners strike – support efforts	Haringey	HTUC pamphlet	Strike solidarity. HTUC	Extensive political and financial support for a year
1985	Broadwater Farm clashes following police killing of Cynthia Jarrett. Then long defence campaign	Tottenham	Online	Resistance to racist or oppressive policing	Police officer killed. Successful defence campaign. Demands for changes to policing of black youth. Demands for BWF estate improvements. Gifford Inquiry. See 1988 C4 film. See also other family justice campaigns for Joy Gardner & Roger Sylvester
Mid-1980s onwards	Range of new community-run Community Centres	Haringey	Haringey Community Centres Network. Online	Many still running. HCCN.	Irish Centre, Asian Centre, West Indian Centre, Women's Centre, Law Centre, Unemployed Centre, BWF Centre etc. Mainly Council buildings. Bases for community activities, education, empowerment and action. Tottm Community Sport Centre set up 1970s
1986	Positive Images / gay rights campaign	Haringey	RaHN pamphlet	Wise Thoughts	3000 marched to Bruce Castle Park. Council-backed campaign against Government 'Section 28' laws.
1988-92	Anti-poll tax movement	Haringey	RaHN leaflet	Misc community campaigns	Mass street-by-street non-payment defiance campaign defeated the Government despite Council legal action/bailiffs/jailings etc. 1,000 attend public meeting. 97,000 refuse to pay. After the campaign HSG was set up by APT groups.
1990s ongoing	Defend Council Housing	Haringey		Ongoing	Lobbies. Support for self-organisation. Campaigns supported sheltered housing, & opposed demolitions. See also squatting and housing co-ops.
1994-2005	McLibel case and campaign	Tottenham	RaHN pamphlet. Documentary on youtube.	Defence and defiance campaigns.	Protests v McDonald's (first was Tottenham High Rd, 1984). 2 Tottenham residents, sued for libel, defended themselves in longest case in English history. Global campaign and publicity.
1995	JJ Fast Food workers strike	Tottenham Hale	RaHN pamphlet	Strikes and strike support. Migrant workers unions.	45 Turkish and Kurdish workers on strike for 3 months for union recognition.
1998	Massive Street Party on High Rd	Seven Sisters		Street parties in local streets	6000 people march from Euston and take over Tottenham High Road for an all-afternoon 'Reclaim The Streets' street party
2001 onwards	Haringey Federation of Residents Associations	Haringey	Documentary on HSG website.	RAs ongoing	Very active for over 10 yrs. Up to 180 local RAs at its highest point. Maybe still around 100, many now on whatsapp groups. Note: There had been a Haringey Tenants Federation in 1967-8.
2001 onwards	Haringey Friends of Parks Forum	Haringey	See Forum website	Ongoing.	Currently 65 local FGs. Early on there were successful residents' protests to save green spaces

					(eg Downhills Pk and WHL Rec) under threat mainly by the Council. Mostly an empowerment movement working with the Council's Parks Service..
2007 onwards	Sustainable Haringey network	Haringey	Online	Ongoing	Set up to coordinate green efforts to respond to climate change etc.. Friends of the Earth already active since early 70s. Recently XR also active.
2010-12	Anti-cuts movement	Haringey	Video on HSG website	Defence campaigns for public services and facilities.	UK wide protest movement against Government cuts to Councils' and NHS budgets. Civic Centre occupied. Some specific campaigns last for years.
2011	Mark Duggan killed by police, Tottenham High Road 'riot'	Tottenham	Video of post-riot march on HSG website	Protests v racist or oppressive policing	Clashes with police spread to other parts of London and many other towns. 3000 attend 'Give Our Kids A Future' local march a few days after.
2013 onwards	Our Tottenham network, then HDV campaign (2015)	Tottenham and Haringey	See OT website	Ongoing	Resistance to 'top-down' developer-led and Council-backed demolitions and gentrification. Support for local battles and Community Plans eg BWF, Wards Corner, Selby Site, and St Ann's Hospital. 1000 march v HDV threat to privatise the management of Council land and assets – successfully force key Cabinet figures to resign.
2020	Black Lives Matter protests	Haringey		Ongoing	eg. Protest at Police Station after schoolboy beaten up by police.
2020 - ongoing	Covid street-based Mutual aid groups	Haringey		Ongoing	Residents rally round during lockdowns - to support each other and esp vulnerable neighbours. Many groups continue.
2023	Right To Food march	Haringey		Ongoing	Tottenham march. Rise of Food Banks / Kitchens
2024	Kurdish Centre defence campaign	Harringay		Ongoing	March down Green Lanes, and support campaign to defend Centre activists arrested for political activity.
2024	Palestine solidarity protests	Haringey		Ongoing	Local marches, and meet ups to go to the regular massive national marches. Lobbies to get Council to disinvest in illegal investments.

Note:

- The above is just a snapshot of some of the key local campaigns and movements of significance. There will be many more which could be added – although of course its not possible to include everything.
- Its also worth noting that there are a lot of groups, organisations, networks and projects carrying out and promoting positive community-building on an ongoing basis. This is highly important and influential, but usually less dramatic than the above efforts and therefore often goes under the radar.
- There are also long-established organisations which as a matter of principle extend solidarity, publicity and active support to a range of campaigns. This includes socialist parties, the Trades Union Council, Haringey Solidarity Group, those who have produced community newspapers over the years and run radical bookshops, rights organisations and so on.
- More details about some of the above can be found here: https://radicalhistorynetwork.blogspot.com/2025/10/rebel-haringey-standing-on-shoulders-of.html And on that website generally.